

Appl. No. 10/849,359  
Reply to FOA of 03/14/2008

## **REMARKS**

### **Summary of the Amendment**

Upon entry of the present Amendment, Claims 8, 10, 11, 22, 25, 27, 29, and 31 will have been amended, Claims 15, 17, 18, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 will have been canceled, and Claims 33-36 will have been added. Accordingly, Claims 8, 10, 11, 22, 25, 27, 29, 31, and 33-36 remain pending in the present application. By the present Amendment and Remarks, Applicant submits that the rejections and objections have been overcome, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

### **Canceled Claims**

Applicant canceled Claims 15, 17, 18, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 without prejudice and reserves the right to re-present these claims at a later time. As such, Applicant submits that the objections and rejections with respect to these claims are now moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw any objections and rejections directed to these claims.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner objected to Claims 10, 17, 18, and 24-32 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims. As such, Applicant has re-written the objected claims in independent form as follows:

- Added the features of Claim 24 to the base Claim 8;
- Amended Claim 10 to depend on Claim 8;
- Amended Claim 25 to depend on Claim 8;
- Added the features of Claim 26 to the base Claim 11;
- Amended Claim 27 to depend on Claim 11;
- Added Claim 33 to include the features of Claims 15 and 17;
- Added Claim 34 to include the features of Claims 15 and 18;

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- Added Claim 35 to include the features of Claims 15 and 28;
- Amended Claim 29 to depend on Claim 35;
- Added Claim 36 to include the features of Claims 15 and 32;
- Added the features of Claim 30 to the base Claim 22; and
- Amended Claim 31 to depend on Claim 22.

#### **Traversal of Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In view of Applicant's above-noted actions, Applicant submits that the rejection has been overcome and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

#### **Application is Allowable**

Applicant respectfully submits that each and every pending claim on the present invention meets the requirements for patentability and respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate allowance of such claims.

#### **Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record anticipate or render obvious the Applicant's invention as recited in Claims 8, 10, 11, 22, 25, 27, 29, 31, and 33-36. The applied reference of record has been discussed and distinguished, while the significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

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If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 502456.

Respectfully submitted,

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